

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. This effort by the Sinclair Corporation is an example of what has occurred in this country referable to the change for broadcast ownership in this country. I object to the use of public airwaves for such a partisan program just prior to the election. Consolidation is not healthy for a free and democrat nation. Those who have control, those who do not are not heard. Our basic freedoms are at risk with this decision.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.